GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4498
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2008
INCIDENT OF PLANE CRASH AVERTED AT GUWAHATI AIRPORT
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a major crash was averted at Guwahati airport in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the emergency arrangements in place to face such a situation; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to avert such major crashes at the airports in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b):- There was a bird hit and tyre burst incident to Indian Airlines Kolkata - Guwahati flight No. IC 229 on 07.02.2008.

(c) :- Every airport has procedure documented to deal with all emergencies. Guwahati airport has an Aerodrome Emergency Plan (AEP) to cater to any emergency situation involving aircraft and its occupants. The AEP is updated periodically and drills are conducted to ensure effectiveness and preparedness of the plan.

(d):- Airfield Environment Management Committees have been constituted at those airport where scheduled flights operate to identify the sources of bird attraction and take remedial steps for prevention of such incidents. Various specific steps such as proper disposal of garbage, prevention of water logging, coverage of garbage bins, establishment of modern abattoirs, scaring of birds etc. have also been taken to reduce the incidence of bird hits.